

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 26, 1891.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. MITCHELL, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 5119.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 143) for the relief of Mrs. Eliza A. Brownlow, beg leave to submit the following report:

The claimant is the widow and executrix of the late William G. Brownlow, deceased, late of Tennessee, and the claim is for the sum of \$900, alleged to be due the estate for publishing certain legal monitions in Brownlow's Knoxville Whig, a newspaper published in Knoxville, Tenn., at various times from January 4 to December 14, 1864, amounting to \$900. These monitions were published, as appears from the papers, under and in pursuance of orders of the circuit court of the United States for the eastern district of Tennessee. On an examination of the papers filed in the case, including a communication from the Treasury Department (First Auditor's Office) of date April 29, 1890, it appears that the claims as originally presented to the Government for allowance consisted not only of the one in favor of the estate of William G. Brownlow for \$900, but also of one in favor of Brownlow & Hawes for advertising similar monitions in the same paper from July 22, 1865, to July 22, 1868, amounting to \$915. A similar claim, also, is made by Brownlow, Hawes & Co., these parties respectively, at different times, being owners of the Knoxville Whig, a newspaper published at Knoxville, Tenn. Claim is now made to the committee that if any relief is given it should include all parties in interest, and your committee are of the same opinion.

By the evidence it is made quite plain to your committee that the services in publishing the monitions were rendered under the order of the court as claimed. Your committee, however, are not entirely satisfied that the claim is a proper charge against the Government, and, if so, that the amounts have not heretofore been paid. Your committee, however, believe that a case is presented which justifies a reference of the whole matter to the Department of Justice, with a view to an investigation and ultimate payment of any amounts to the parties named that may be found to be justly due and owing them on account of the claims referred to, in the event that the Attorney-General should, after examination, be of the opinion that they are proper legal or equitable claims against the United States. Your committee therefore report back Senate bill 143 with the recommendation that it be indefi-

nately postponed, and as a substitute therefor recommend the passage of the following:

A BILL to authorize the investigation by the Attorney-General of certain claims alleged to be due the late proprietors of the Knoxville Whig for advertising, and authorizing the payment therefor by the Secretary of the Treasury of any amounts found by the Attorney-General to be legally or equitably due.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Attorney-General be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to investigate the claims of the legal representatives of W. G. Brownlow, Brownlow and Hawes, and Brownlow, Hawes and Company, late owners and proprietors, respectively, of the Knoxville Whig, a newspaper published at Knoxville, in the State of Tennessee, for advertising certain legal notices alleged to have been advertised in said paper in the years eighteen hundred and sixty-four, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, and eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, and to ascertain whether such services were rendered as claimed, or any part thereof, and if so, the value thereof, and also whether the same, and if so, to what extent, is either a legal or equitable claim against the United States, and if any sum is so found to be due and owing the claimants, or any of them, and the same is a legal or equitable claim against the United States, to certify such facts, together with the amount, to the Secretary of the Treasury, who is hereby authorized and directed to pay to such claimants, or their legal representatives, the full amount so ascertained out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and such sum or sums of money which may be thus found to be legally or equitably due shall, when paid, be in full satisfaction and discharge of all claims for compensation by said claimants, or any of them, for any such service against the United States, which amount is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

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